Committee and approved by the full Senate by voice vote on September 21, 1995

H.R. 2024 is an industry initiative developed to respond to the environmental threats posed by used, spent batteries. The approach is twofold. First, the bill promotes the recycling of rechargeable batteries through uniform labeling requirements and streamlined regulations for battery collection programs. Second, the bill limits mercury content in and phases out the use of mercury in certain batteries.

The bill is straightforward and contains two titles. Title I would facilitate the efficient recycling of nickel-cadmium rechargeable batteries, small lead-acid rechargeable batteries, and rechargeable batteries used in consumer products through: One, uniform battery labeling requirements; two, streamlined regulatory requirements for battery collection programs; and three, the elimination of barriers to funding voluntary industry collection programs.

Title II is intended to phase out the use of mercury in batteries, thus reducing the threat this material poses to our air and groundwater.

H.R. 2024 and its Senate companion S. 619 are prime examples of industry's concern for the environment. The legislation is an excellent example of a point that I have made many times: protection of the environment and a strong economy go hand in hand. By providing a coherent national system for labeling batteries and products, requiring the easy removability of batteries from consumer products, and streamlining Federal regulations, the Mercury-Containing and Rechargeable Battery Management Act will provide States, localities, consumers, and industry the opportunity to join together to achieve greater environmental protection without imposing burdens on the States or local taxpayers. In fact, the bill will generate substantial savings for Federal, State, and local entities and commercial operations that ship batteries due to the lower cost associated with the bill's streamlined requirements.

H.R. 2024 is legislation supported by the Portable Rechargeable Battery Association and the National Electrical Manufacturers Association. In addition, the administration has expressed its support for the bill. I am convinced that H.R. 2024 will result in greater protection of our environment and I urge its adoption.

Mr. LAUTENBERG. Mr. President, I rise to join Senator CHAFEE and Senator SMITH in supporting H.R. 2024, the Mercury-Containing and Rechargeable Battery Management Act.

The bill is based on the bipartisan bill that I sponsored with Senators FAIRCLOTH, LIEBERMAN, REID, and GRAHAM during the last Congress.

This legislation is an important step in our efforts to control the amount of toxic wastes entering the waste stream. Specifically, it deals with mercury, cadmium, and lead, which are contained in some battery casing. These materials pose no risk while a battery is in use. But they can be a significant concern when discarded in our solid waste stream.

Cadmium, which is used in the electrodes of rechargeable nickel-cadmium batteries, can cause kidney and liver damage.

Mercury exposure can cause significant damage to the nervous system and kidneys. It has also been linked to decreased motor functions and muscle reflexes, memory loss, headaches, and brain function disorders. And when mercury enters the aquatic environment, it can form methyl mercury, which is extremely toxic to both humans and wildlife.

Although dry cell batteries account for less than one-tenth of 1 percent of the 180 billion tons of garbage we generate each year, dry cell batteries have been significant sources of mercury, cadmium, and lead in our waste stream.

According to a New York State report, mercury batteries accounted for 85 percent of the mercury, and rechargeable batteries accounted for 68 percent of the cadmium, in New York's solid waste.

In landfills, dry cell batteries can break down to release their toxic contents and contaminate our waters. In incinerators, the combustion of dry cell batteries containing toxic metals leads to elevated toxic air emissions, and has increased the concentrations of toxic metals in the resulting fly and bottom ash.

This bill, by limiting the amount of toxics used in primary batteries and creating a recycling program for rechargeable nickel cadmium, will remove a significant source of toxics from our landfills.

Mr. KEMPTHORNE. I ask unanimous consent that the bill be deemed read for the third time, passed, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and that any statements relating to the bill appear at the appropriate place in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

So the bill (H.R. 2024) was deemed read for the third time, and passed.

AUTHORITY TO SIGN DULY ENROLLED BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Mr. DOLE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that I be permitted to sign duly enrolled bills and resolutions during today's session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SEQUENTIAL REFERRAL OF S. 1660

Mr. KEMPTHORNE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that if and when the Environment and Public Works Committee reports the bill S.

1660, the National Invasive Species Act of 1996, the bill be sequentially referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation for a period not to exceed 20 calendar days; further, that if the measure has not been reported following that period, it be automatically discharged and placed on the calendar.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

PRINTING OF SENATE DOCUMENT

Mr. KEMPTHORNE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the statement submitted with reference to the death of Secretary Brown and other officials at the Commerce Department and from the business community be compiled and printed as a Senate document.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

MEASURE READ FOR THE FIRST TIME—S. 1708

Mr. KEMPTHORNE. Mr. President, I understand that S. 1708, introduced earlier today by Senator Thurmond, is at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will read the bill for the first time.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows.

A bill (S. 1708) to amend title 28 of the United States Code to clarify the remedial jurisdiction of the inferior Federal courts.

Mr. KEMPTHORNE. Mr. President, I now ask for its second reading and, on behalf of Senator DASCHLE, I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard. The bill will remain at the desk.

UNANIMOUS-CONSENT REQUEST— H.R. 2337

Mr. KEMPTHORNE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of calendar No. 374, H.R. 2337, an act to provide for increased taxpayer protections; that one amendment be in order to the measure which will be offered by Senator GRAMM regarding the gas tax repeal: that no other amendments be in order; further, that immediately following the disposition of the Gramm amendment, the bill be read a third time and the Senate proceed to vote on passage of the measure, as amended, if amended, with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Mr. KEMPTHORNE. Mr. President, I have to object on behalf of the minority leader, and I would state that the Democrats are cleared with no amendments

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

ORDERS FOR MONDAY, APRIL 29, 1996

Mr. KEMPTHORNE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today it stand in adjournment until the hour of 11:30 a.m. on Monday, April 29; further, that immediately following the prayer, the Journal of proceedings be deemed approved to date, no resolutions come over under the rule, the call of the calendar be dispensed with, the morning hour be deemed to have expired, and there then be a period for morning business until the hour of 2:30 p.m., with the first 90 minutes under the control of Senator DASCHLE and the last 90 minutes under the control of Senator COVERDELL, and that at 2:30 p.m., the Senate resume the immigration bill.

I further ask unanimous consent that Friday, April 26, be considered the intervening day with respect to rule XXII, and the cloture vote occur at 5 p.m. on Monday, and the mandatory quorum under rule XXII be waived.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

PROGRAM

Mr. KEMPTHORNE. Mr. President, the Senate will resume consideration of S. 1664, the immigration bill, at 2:30 p.m. on Monday, and at that time Senators are urged to offer amendments that may be cleared to the immigration bill.

Senators are also reminded that all second-degree amendments to the Simpson amendment must be filed by 4 p.m. on Monday in order to qualify postcloture.

Mr. President, Senators can expect additional votes on the immigration bill on Monday following the cloture vote; however, no votes will occur prior to 5 p.m. on Monday. The Senate may also be asked to turn to any other legislative items that can be cleared for action.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 11:30 A.M. MONDAY, APRIL 29, 1996

Mr. KEMPTHORNE. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I now ask the Senate stand in adjournment under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 9:20 p.m, adjourned until Monday, April 29, 1996, at 11:30 a.m.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate April 25, 1996:

IN THE AIR FORCE

THE FOLLOWING-NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE OF LIEUTENANT GENERAL WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, UNITED STATES CODE, SECTION 601.

To be lieutenant general

MAJ. GEN. JOHN A. GORDON, 000-00-0000, U.S. AIR FORCE.

IN THE NAVY

THE FOLLOWING-NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE OF VICE ADMIRAL IN THE U.S. NAVY WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, UNITED STATES CODE, SECTION 601:

To be vice admiral

REAR ADM. (SELECTEE) THOMAS B. FARGO, 000-00-0000.

THE FOLLOWING-NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE OF VICE ADMIRAL IN THE U.S. NAVY WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, UNITED STATES CODE, SECTIONS 601 AND 5141:

CHIEF OF NAVAL PERSONNEL

To be vice admiral

BEAR ADM. DANIEL T. OLIVER, 000-00-0000.

THE FOLLOWING-NAMED OFFICER FOR REAPPOINT-MENT TO THE GRADE OF VICE ADMIRAL IN THE U.S. NAVY WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, UNITED STATES CODE, SECTION 601:

To be vice admiral

VICE ADM. DENNIS C. BLAIR, 000-00-0000

THE FOLLOWING-NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE OF ADMIRAL IN THE U.S. NAVY WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10 UNITED STATES CODE, SECTION 601:

To be admiral

VICE ADM. ARCHIE R. CLEMINS, 000-00-0000.

THE FOLLOWING-NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE OF VICE ADMIRAL IN THE U.S. NAVY WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10 UNITED STATES CODE, SECTION 60:

To be vice admiral

REAR ADM. (SELECTEE) ROBERT J. NATTER. 000-00-0000.

THE FOLLOWING-NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE OF VICE ADMIRAL IN THE U.S. NAVY WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10 UNITED STATES CODE, SECTION 601:

To be vice admiral

REAR ADM. JAMES B. PERKINS III, 000-00-0000.

THE FOLLOWING-NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE OF VICE ADMIRAL IN THE U.S. NAVY WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10 UNITED STATES CODE, SECTION 601:

To be vice admiral

REAR ADM, HERBERT A. BROWNE II, 000-00-0000.

IN THE AIR FORCE

THE FOLLOWING-NAMED OFFICERS, ON THE ACTIVE DUTY LIST, FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE REGULAR AIR FORCE, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 531 OF TITLE 10, UNITED STATES CODE, WITH A VIEW TO DESIGNATION IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 8067 OF TITLE 10, UNITED STATES CODE, TO PERFORM DUTIES INDICATED WITH GRADE AND DATE OF RANK TO BE DETERMINED BY THE SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE PROVIDED THAT IN NO CASE SHALL THE FOLLOWING OFFICERS BE APPOINTED IN A HIGHER GRADE THAN THAT INDICATED:

MEDICAL CORPS

To be colonel

KATHLEEN S. BOHANON, 000-00-0000

MEDICAL CORPS

To be lieutenant colonel

SCHUYLER K. GELLER, 000-00-0000 ROGER R. HESSELBROCK, 000-00-0000

JANET M. WALKER, 000-00-0000

DENTAL CORPS

To be lieutenant colonel

ROBERT C. PARKER, 000-00-0000

MEDICAL CORPS

To be major

GREGG A. BENDRICK, 000-00-0000

BRUCE T. HEWETT, 000-00-0000

DENTAL CORPS

To be major

JEFFREY C. BANKER, 000-00-0000 DAVID B. CHIESA, 000-00-0000 GIAO V. WEBB, 000-00-0000

THE FOLLOWING-NAMED OFFICER, ON THE ACTIVE DUTY LIST, FOR PROMOTION TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE U.S. AIR FORCE IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTIONS 624 AND 1552 OF TITLE 10, UNITED STATES CODE. THE OFFICER IS ALSO NOMINATED FOR REGULAR APPOINT

MENT IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 531 OF TITLE 10, UNITED STATES CODE:

LINE

To be major

NANCY MELENDEZ CAMILO

THE FOLLOWING AIR NATIONAL GUARD OF THE UNITED STATES OFFICERS FOR PROMOTION IN THE RESERVE OF THE AIR FORCE UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF SECTIONS 12203 AND 8379, TITLE 10 OF THE UNITED STATES CODE. PROMOTIONS MADE UNDER SECTION 8379 AND CONFIRMED BY THE SENATE UNDER SECTION 12203 SHALL BEAR AN EFFECTIVE DATE ESTABLISHED IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 8374, TITLE 10 OF THE UNITED STATES CODE:

LINE

To be lieutenant colonel

JAMES C. BAIR, 000-00-0000
MARK C. CROCKER, 000-00-0000
LARRY D. HALE, 000-00-0000
TERBSA A. HARDEN, 000-00-0000
THERESA G. JEANE, 000-00-0000
EARL K. JUSKOWIAK, 000-00-0000
EARL K. JUSKOWIAK, 000-00-0000
THOMAS, J. KEOUGH, 000-00-0000
MARK R. KRAUS, 000-00-0000
ROBERT E. LALLY, JR., 000-00-0000
ROBERT E. LEWIS, 000-00-0000
KENNETH A. LUIKART, 000-00-0000
TIMOTHY A.J. MCGREER, 000-00-0000
MARK A. RELFORD, 000-00-0000
RONALD D. STRALEY, 000-00-0000
SIEGFRIED G. VONSCHWEINITZ, JR., 000-00-0000

CHAPLAIN CORP

To be lieutenant colonel

LESLIE R. HYDER, 000-00-0000

BIO-MEDICAL SCIENCE CORPS

To be lieutenant colonel

CHARLES A. MIRANDA, 000-00-0000

NURSE CORPS

To be lieutenant colonel

PATRICIA M. YOW, 000-00-0000

DENTAL CORPS

To be lieutenant colonel

DONALD W. DAVISON, 000-00-0000

IN THE NAVY

THE FOLLOWING-NAMED U.S. NAVAL RESERVE OFFICERS TO BE APPOINTED PERMANENT LIEUTENANT IN THE MEDICAL CORPS OF THE U.S. NAVY, PURSUANT TO TITLE 10, UNITED STATES CODE, SECTION 531:

JAMES A. CAVINESS, 000-00-0000 TONY S. CLINTON, 000-00-0000 ANGELIQUE CRAIG, 000-00-0000 DONALD S. CRAIN, 000-00-0000 DONALD S. CRAIN, 000-00-0000 KARA L. CRISMOND, 000-00-0000 KIMBERLY D. DAVIS, 000-00-0000 ANTHONY E. DELGADO, 000-00-0000 KEVIN A. DORRANCE, 000-00-0000 DAVID M. DROMSKY, 000-00-0000 CARL C. EIERLE, 000-00-0000 STEVEN J. ESCOBAR, 000-00-0000 MARK J. FOWLER, 000-00-0000 JACOB L. FRIESEN, 000-00-0000 JAMES J. GEORGE, 000-00-0000 BRYN J. HAASE, 000-00-0000 KEITH A. HANLEY, 000-00-0000 TERENCE A. HEATH, 000-00-0000 MARK E. HERRERA, 000-00-0000 REID D. HOLTZCLAW, 000-00-0000 SUEZANE L. HOLTZCLAW, 000-00-0000 PRISCILLA HUYNH, 000-00-0000 SEAN R. KELLY, 000-00-0000 JANETH F. KIM, 000-00-0000 MARK A. KOBELJA, 000-00-0000 CHRISTOPHER B. LANDES, 000-00-0000 CHRISTOPHER B. LANDES, 000-00-0000
HENRY LIN, 000-00-0000
THOMAS C. LUKE, 000-00-0000
KEVAN E. MANN, 000-00-0000
JOHN M. MC CURLEFY, 000-00-0000
PATRICK M. MC ELDREW, 000-00-0000
MARGARET M. MC GUIGAN, 000-00-0000
MARK E. MICHAUD, 000-00-0000
ERICA S. MILLER, 000-00-0000 ELIZABETH M. NORRIS 000-00-0000 TIMOTHY W. O'HARA 000-00-0000 RALPH H. PICKARD, 000-00-0000 EMERICH D. PIEDAD, 000-00-0000 ANNA M. RAFANAN, 000-00-0000 SARA L. SALTZSTEIN, 000-00-0000 ANDREW W. SCHIEMEL, 000-00-0000 CATHLEEN M. SHANTZ, 000-00-0000 STEVEN T. SHEEDLO, 000-00-0000 CRAIG R. SPENCER, 000-00-0000 MICHAEL S. SULLIVAN, 000-00-0000 ADRIAN D. TALBOT, 000-00-0000 SALLY G. TAMAYO, 000-00-0000 GREGORY T. THIER, 000-00-0000 CHRISTOPHER WESTROFF, 000-00-0000 WILLIAM M. WIKE, 000-00-0000